

# Ryedale Natural History Society Annual Report 2014

On Monday 2nd December 1963 Mr. D. Wright of Kirkbymoorside convened a group of people interested in Natural History. As a result the first meeting of the Ryedale Natural History Society was held at the White Swan, Kirkbymoorside on 13<sup>th</sup> January 1964. To celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary a dinner was held at the George Hotel on 17<sup>th</sup> December with founder member Gordon Simpson as guest of honour. We then adjourned to our meeting room where Gordon gave a talk about his experiences as a naturalist.

The original minute books contained reports of outings the society had undertaken in that year. The committee decided that it would be interesting to try to use our outdoor programme for 2014 to replicate those outings. To a certain extent this is what we did as most sites were known to us however some of the sites were rather general in description so in some cases we had to decide from the botanical records where some of these would likely be. Most of the early records were botanical and so lists were produced for 1964 and a comparison made with the plants identified on our walks.

## **Anniversary Outings;**

[Stape and Raintale on 10<sup>th</sup> May.](#) (Page 2)

[Ashberry Bank on 8<sup>th</sup> June.](#) (Page 10)

[Sleightholmedale on 21<sup>st</sup> June.](#) (Page 16)

[Cherry Tree Farm on 12<sup>th</sup> July.](#) (Page 20)

[Hutton Common on 6<sup>th</sup> September.](#) (Page 25)

[Sleightholmedale \(Fungi foray\) on 14<sup>th</sup> October.](#) (Page 28)

## **Other Outings;**

[Arkengarthdale Black Grouse Lek](#) (Page 34)

[Sutton Bank Dawn Chorus](#) (Page 36)

## **Annual Reports:**

[Birds](#) (Page 38)

[Amphibians and Reptiles](#) (Page 55)

[Botany](#) (Page 56)

[Insects, flies etc.](#) (Page 57)

[Fungi](#) (Page 60)

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# Stape and Raindale 50th Anniversary

## 10th May 2014

*led by Gill Smith and Gordon Simpson, report by Ken Hutchinson*

We met at Stape village hall for our 50th Anniversary meeting to retrace the steps of those founder members through Raindale and to try and find the rarer plants that they discovered all those years ago. We were delighted to welcome members from the C.M. Rob Society, Cleveland Field Naturalists and Whitby Field Naturalists. We were particularly pleased with the presence of Gordon Simpson, one of our founder members and the leader on that first event 50 years ago. A group of 28 of us set off in our full wet weather gear. Hats off to all of us for braving a weather forecast of prolonged heavy downpours. However, despite some rain it was to be a glorious afternoon with sunshine at times.



Our intention was to walk at a pace through Raindale to the railway line in Newtondale and then botanise in detail on the way back with members also recording other wildlife. However, it just proved too tempting for some and the pace was slow out and snail pace on return. But the rewards were rich. Gordon knew what was high on his list, Intermediate wintergreen *Pyrola media*. He didn't waste any time finding it, he remembered the marker and went straight to it. There it was, about three metres off the path just under the trees,



on the same small hump from 50 years ago. He admitted that the last time he visited it was in 1970. Well remembered Gordon! It was too early to be in flower and it will be revisited at a later date. [Ed: a later visit in June showed four clumps of *Pyrola* on the same mound, and on the opposite side of the track were four plants of pepper saxifrage with loads of ragged robin in flower nearby too. Lesser spearwort was seen in the ditch, and plenty of yellow rattle and common spotted orchids in abundance.]

What was also of interest were the three types of horsetail *Equisetum*, Wood *E. sylvaticum*, Marsh *E. palustre*, and Great *E. telmateia*, with the latter dwarfing the other two significantly. Again, it will be a few more weeks before they are fully on show.

Some of the species on the original list were not found and we learned that they were further afield than our walk was taking us so we did not pursue them. A total of 169 plants were found which is quite impressive but there will be others later in the growing season.

We recorded a total of 33 birds on the walk with all the anticipated summer visitors present. In Newtondale we watched a House Martin *Delichon urbica* building a nest under the eaves of the old railway cottages and close by on Pickering Beck a Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* was seen feeding young. High overhead were 10 or more Swifts *Apus apus* that had recently arrived. A few lucky members were treated to the sight of a Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* in the lower reaches of Raindale Beck. Insects were not in abundance, perhaps due to the inclement weather, and unsurprisingly for the time of year only a small number of fungi were noted. All the species found on the day were to be placed on the Society's records.



We were able to study the activity of a slow worm *Anguis fragilis*, unfortunately damaged by one of us accidentally standing on it. It shed its tail very quickly as we know it can do but what was remarkable was the consequent activity of the tail. It was about 10cm long and continued to move rapidly despite being totally independent. It even coiled itself round a finger with some amount of pressure being exercised. We monitored it and it continued to move for about 10 minutes although with diminishing effort. We concluded that its nervous system must operate like this as a defensive mechanism, deflecting the predator's attention from the main body of the slow worm to the shedded tail.

On returning to Stape village hall we enjoyed tea and home-made cake. We had a short discussion on species found and were entertained by Gordon giving us a short talk on how things have changed here in Raindale from 50 years ago.

A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and thanks go to all those who contributed to this special meeting from outside the Society and from those within. Thanks also go to Darlington and Teesside Naturalists' Field Club and Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club for sending congratulatory cards.

Latin name	English Name	1964	2014
<i>Larix</i> sp. ( <i>L. decidua</i> )	Larch		X
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots pine		X
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce		X
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold		X
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood anemone		X
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup		X
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous buttercup		X
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser celandine		X
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser spearwort		X
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup		X
<i>Eranthis hyemalis</i>	Winter aconite		X
<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	Welsh poppy		X
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's purse		X
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy bittercress		X
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy bittercress		X
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Hedge garlic		X
<i>Viola palustris</i>	Marsh violet	X	X
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	Early dog violet	X	X
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Dog violet		X
<i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i>	Heath milkwort		X
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort		X
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	Square-stalked St John's-wort		X
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red campion		X
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear		X
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky mouse-ear		X
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort	X	X
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed		X
<i>Stellaria uliginosa</i>	Bog stitchwort		X
<i>Montia fontanum</i>	Blinks	X	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert		X
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood sorrel		X
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore		X
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly		X
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse		X
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom		X
<i>Trifolium medium</i>	Zigzag clover		X
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover		X
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover		X
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Birdsfoot trefoil		X
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Birdsfoot trefoil		X
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch		X
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Vetch, bitter	X	X
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling		X

<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet		X
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	Dewberry		X
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble		X
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry		X
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed		X
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	X	X
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping cinquefoil		X
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren strawberry		X
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild strawberry		X
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water avens		X
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad burnet		?
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Greater burnet	X	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose		X
<i>Rosa mollis</i>	Downy rose		X
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field rose		X
<i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet rose	X	
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry	X	
<i>Prunus padus</i>	Bird cherry	X	X
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn		X
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn		X
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan		X
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple		X
<i>Chrysosplenium oppositifolium</i>	Opposite-leaved golden saxifrage		X
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	Gooseberry		X
<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Sundew	X	
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved willowherb		X
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb		X
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy		X
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley		X
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut		X
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Angelica		X
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed		X
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's mercury		X
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel		X
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's sorrel		
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock		X
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood dock		X
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle		X
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Gale	X	
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy birch		X
<i>Betula pendula</i> × <i>pubescens</i> (B. × <i>aurata</i> )	Hybrid birch		X
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel		X
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech		X
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak		X

<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat willow		X
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey willow		X
<i>Salix repens</i>	Creeping willow		X
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling		X
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry		X
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	Cowberry	X	X
<i>Pyrola media</i>	Intermediate wintergreen	X	X
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose		X
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow pimpernel		X
<i>Trientalis europaea</i>	Chickweed wintergreen	X	X
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash		X
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not		X
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove		X
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell		X
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved speedwell		X
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow rattle		X
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint		X
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self heal		X
<i>Stachys officinalis</i>	Betony	X	X
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge woundwort		X
<i>Lamium galeobdolon ssp argentatum</i>	Yellow archangel - garden escape		X
<i>Lamium album</i>	White dead nettle		X
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle		X
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain		X
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater plantain		X
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers		X
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort		X
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh bedstraw		X
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	Heath bedstraw		X
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder		X
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder rose		X
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry		X
<i>Valeriana dioica</i>	Marsh valerian	X	X
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common valerian		X
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devils-bit scabious		X
<i>Senecio jacobea</i>	Common ragwort		X
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Common groundsel		X
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Coltsfoot		X
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy		X
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony		X
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineapple weed		X
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow		X
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Dog daisy		X
<i>Artemesia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort		X

<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle		X
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh thistle		X
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common knapweed		X
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort		X
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear		X
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall lettuce		X
<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	Dandelion		X
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell		X
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Ramsons		X
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard Rush		X
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush		X
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Jointed Rush		X
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Woodrush		X
<i>Luzula multiflora</i>	Heath Woodrush		X
<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>	Greater Woodrush		X
<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	Snowdrop		X
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early purple orchid		X
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common spotted orchid		X
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Common reedmace		X
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous sedge		X
<i>Carex nigra</i>	Common sedge		X
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote sedge		X
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood sedge		X
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass		X
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat		X
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	Slender False Brome		X
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot		X
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted hair grass		X
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue		X
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	Creeping Soft Grass		?
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple Moor Grass		X
<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh horsetail		X
<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	Wood Horsetail	X	X
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Giant Horsetail		X
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort	X	
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adderstongue	X	X
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken		X
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern		X
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern		X
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Golden-scaled Male Fern		X
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler Fern		X
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard Fern	X	X
<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Western hemlock		?

? = probable ID- 166 spp. Including garden escapes and trees - The Wintergreen is assigned to *P. media* as Gordon has seen it in flower. The burnet might have been very young leaves of Great burnet.



**100 years of expertise: Gordon Simpson and Nan Sykes**

<b>Mosses</b>	
Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus	Springy Turf-moss
Rhytidiadelphus loreus	Little Shaggy-moss
Hylocomium splendens	Glittering Wood-moss

<b>Birds</b>
1. Herring Gull
2. Kestrel
3. Willow Warbler
4. Great Tit
5. Common Swift
6. Barn Swallow
7. Blackbird
8. Wren
9. Yellowhammer
10. Carrion Crow
11. Chaffinch
12. Chiffchaff
13. Song Thrush
14. Mistle Thrush
15. Robin
16. Goldcrest
17. Coal Tit
18. Bullfinch
19. Grey Wagtail
20. Pied Wagtail
21. Blackcap
22. House Martin
23. Woodpigeon
24. Hedge Accentor
25. Blackcap
26. House Sparrow
27. Starling
28. Whitethroat
29. Linnet
30. Greenfinch
31. Siskin
32. Dipper
33. Lapwing

# Ashberry Evening Walk

## 8th June 2014

*led by Jim Pewtress*

Our Minute Book has the following report for the meeting held on 10th June 1964:

“28 members & guests met on a perfect evening for a botanical ramble in an ideal place (only slightly marred by midges) under guidance of Mr. Alan Gordon. Flowers & plants found included [the list below]. Woodcocks “roding” area in these woods noted.”



This year 10 members & guests met on a somewhat overcast evening for a botanical ramble in an ideal place (marred by midges) under guidance of Mr. Jim Pewtress. Flowers & plants found included [the list below]. As well as the plants we saw and photographed what appeared to be a mummified moth (perhaps covered with fungus) and several small black snails on the damp vegetation. We didn't see or hear woodcocks, but there was a heron.



**Strange moth which looked mummified, probably caused by fungus**



**One of several small dark snails found on damp vegetation**

Ashberry has many special plants and here is a selection, starting with the locally rare and beautiful globeflower.



**One of several colour forms of the Early marsh orchid**



**Another, characteristic, colour form of the Early marsh orchid**



Butterwort, an insectivorous plant of boggy areas



The delightful bird's-eye primrose, a rarity in Ryedale

After the “botanical ramble” Nick Fraser kindly invited participants to a fantastic spread of tea, biscuits and cake, continuing our celebratory theme.

Latin name	English Name	1964	2014
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold		X
<i>Trollius europaeus</i>	Globeflower	X	X
<i>Actaea spicata</i>	Baneberry	X	
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood anemone		x
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup		X
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser celandine		X
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser spearwort	X	X
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup		X
<i>Cardamine amara</i>	Large bittercress	X	
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Milkmaid		X
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common milkwort	X	X
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Rockrose	X	
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red campion		X
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin	X	X
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear		X
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser stitchwort		X
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort		X
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy flax		X
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow cranesbill		X
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	X	X
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody cranesbill	X	
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood sorrel		X

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly		X
<i>Trifolium medium</i>	Zigzag clover		X
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover		X
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover		X
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil		X
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil		X
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy tare	X	X
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch		X
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter-vetch		X
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling		X
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet		X
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble		X
<i>Rubus saxatilis</i>	Stone bramble	X	
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed		X
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	X	X
<i>Geum</i> sp. ( <i>G. × intermedium</i> )	Hybrid avens		X
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water avens	X	X
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood avens	X	X
<i>Alchemilla glabra</i>	Lady's mantle		X
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	Salad burnet	X	X
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Great burnet		X
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn		X
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge laurel		X
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	X	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy		X
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	X	X
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley		x
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut		X
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground elder		X
<i>Silaum silaus</i>	Pepper saxifrage		X
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Angelica		X
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed		X
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's mercury		X
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel	X	X
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock		X
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood dock		X
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle		X
<i>Betula</i> sp.	Birch		X
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel		X
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry		X
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak		X
<i>Primula farinosa</i>	Bird's-eye Primrose	X	X
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip		X
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose		X

<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow pimpernel		X
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash		X
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bogbean		X
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Houndstongue	X	
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	Tuberous comfrey	X	
<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	Changing Forget-me-not	X	X
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not	X	X
<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	Gromwell	X	
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common figwort		X
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	X	X
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell		X
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood speedwell		X
<i>Pedicularis palustris</i>	Marsh lousewort	X	X
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Butterwort	X	X
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint		X
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram		X
<i>Stachys officinalis</i>	Betony	X	X
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge woundwort		X
<i>Lamiaeum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel		X
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle		X
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain		X
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers		X
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	X	X
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Woodruff		X
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder rose	X	
<i>Valeriana dioica</i>	Marsh valerian	X	X
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Coltsfoot		X
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy		X
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony		X
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle		X
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow thistle		X
<i>Cirsium eriophorum</i>	Woolly thistle	X	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common knapweed		X
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough hawkbit		X
<i>Crepis paludosa</i>	Marsh hawk's-beard	X	X
<i>Triglochin palustris</i>	Marsh arrowgrass	X	
<i>Nartheicum ossifragum</i>	Bog asphodel	X	
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell		X
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Ramsons		X
<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	Herb Paris		X
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush		X
<i>Juncus acutifloris</i>	Sharp-flowered Rush		X
<i>Epipactis palustris</i>	Marsh helleborine	X	
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Twayblade	X	X

<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Bird's-nest Orchid	X	
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	Early marsh orchid	?	X
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common spotted orchid	X	X
<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>	Southern marsh orchid	?	
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Heath spotted orchid		X
<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>	Northern marsh orchid		X
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog rush		X
<i>Carex acutiformis</i>	Pond sedge		X
<i>Carex viridula</i>	Yellow sedge		X
<i>Carex pallescens</i>	Pale sedge		X
<i>Carex panicea</i>	Carnation sedge		X
<i>Carex pulicaris</i>	Flea sedge		X
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote sedge		X
<i>Carex rostrata</i>	Bottle sedge		X
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow foxtail		X
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass		X
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	Slender False Brome		X
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	X	X
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dogstail		X
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot		X
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue		X
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog		X
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	Wood melick		X
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough meadow grass		X
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail		X
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken		X
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern		X
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern		X
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler Fern		X
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard Fern	X	

## Sleightholmedale 21st June 2014

*led by Tom Denney, notes by Gill Smith*



50 years to the day we met for a ramble in Sleightholmedale. 20 members and guests met on The Avenue. We do not know the exact route taken in 1964; in 2014 we enjoyed a ramble through the woods down into the valley and then walked through the flower-rich water meadows upstream along the river. I suspect the earlier trip may have gone further upstream or visited the other side of the valley, since we did not pass any habitat suitable for bog asphodel or cottongrass. Some of us braved the swinging “Nepalese bridge” over the river.

The 1964 plant list was short, clearly only recording “interesting” species. I am very suspicious of the “frog orchid” (there is only one other old local record that I know of, and no recent ones. The way it is phrased I think there was uncertainty of the identity of whatever was found, and I wonder if it might have been a twayblade perhaps with damaged leaves.

Of the plants on the list only the columbine (leaves only), spindle, cow wheat (only one plant) and fly orchid (almost over) were found. There had been several spikes of fly orchid seen a few weeks earlier, but only one remained, in deep shade in an old quarry. This may indicate the effects of global warming if there were more fly orchids 50 years ago, or perhaps they also only found late specimens.



**Bee Orchid (left) and Herb Paris with berries**

In keeping with the 1964 list I only recorded a few species of particular interest. The Herb Paris was in fruit, so we could see the shiny black berries which was interesting as we usually see this plant earlier in the season with its extraordinary 4-way flowers. I was sorry not to find the butterfly orchid (although at this date I would expect it to be over and therefore hard to spot!), pyramidal orchid or the chickweed wintergreen. We only found a single plant of cow wheat – this seems to be scarce throughout Ryedale and declining, although we do not know why.





In the waterside meadows we saw several butterflies and moths, including a ringlet butterfly and a magnificent green caterpillar (subsequently identified as a Copper Underwing moth (*Amphipyra pyramidea*)).



**(Copper Underwing caterpillar left) and Ringlet butterfly (right)**

We were treated to a wonderful “birthday tea” with home-made scones and cakes by Rosanna James in her beautiful garden – thank you, Rosanna.

Latin name	English Name	1964	2014
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine	X	X
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	X	X
<i>Pyrola minor</i>	Common wintergreen	X	
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove		X
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>	Cow wheat	X	X
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Dog daisy		X
<i>Crepis paludosa</i>	Marsh hawksbeard		X
<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	Herb Paris		X
<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Frog orchid	X	
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant orchid	X	
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater butterfly orchid	X	
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly orchid	X	X
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid	X	
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	X	
<i>Carex spicata</i>	Spiked sedge	X	
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield Fern		X

### Moths and Butterfly

Thanks to Keith Gittens for this list:

Clouded Magpie

Silver-ground Carpet

Chimney Sweeper

Copper Underwing caterpillar

### Birds

Thanks to Tom Denney for this list:

Swallow

Pied wagtail

Chiffchaff

Carrion crow

Robin

Great tit

Chaffinch

Song thrush

Bullfinch

Garden warbler

Blackcap

Curlew (heard)

# Cherry Tree Farm 12th July 2014

*led by Keith Gittens, notes by Gill Smith*



23 members and guests met at Cherry Tree Farm on a lovely sunny day. We were not sure of the route taken in 1964 so went down to the river and walked upstream through meadows and rough grassland, sometimes marshy.



Some of the waterside meadows were very rich in wildflowers, including a wonderful display of devilsbit scabious and some good spreads of betony, both thriving in neutral or slightly acidic soils.



In the damper areas it was a real treat to see ragged robin doing well (below left). There was also a profusion of common knapweed aka hardheads, including some with an unusually pale centre to the flowerheads (below right).



We finished back at Cherry Farm and celebrated with several different delicious cakes and thanked Keith for leading a very enjoyable ramble in upper Sleightholmedale, an area unfamiliar to many of us.

Latin name	English Name	1964	2014
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold		X
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	Common water crowfoot	X	
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser spearwort	X	X
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	Beautiful St John's-wort	X	
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	Square-stalked St John's wort		X
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin	X	
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear		X
<i>Stellaria palustris</i>	Marsh stitchwort	X	
<i>Chenopodium rubrum</i>	Red goosefoot	?	
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser trefoil		X
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover		X
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover		X
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	X	
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil	X	
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch		X
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter-vetch		X
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling		X
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil		X
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren strawberry		X
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water avens		X
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Great burnet		X
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field rose	X	
<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Sundew	X	
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American willowherb		X
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved willowherb		X
<i>Epilobium obscurum</i>	Short-fruited willowherb		X
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Marsh willowherb	X	
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay willowherb		X
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Marsh pennywort	X	
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut		X
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Angelica		X
<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright hedge parsley		X
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel	X	X
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's sorrel	X	
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock		X
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood dock		X
<i>Betula sp.</i>	Birch		X
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel		X
<i>Anagallis tenella</i>	Bog pimpernel	X	
<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	Centaury		X
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Field Forget-me-not		X
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common toadflax	X	
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove		X

Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle	X	
Odontites verna	Red bartsia		X
Pinguicula vulgaris	Butterwort	X	
Mentha aquatica	Water mint	X	
Thymus polytrichus	Thyme	X	
Prunella vulgaris	Self heal	X	
Stachys officinalis	Betony	X	
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge woundwort	X	
Galeopsis tetrahit	Common hemp nettle		X
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		X
Galium palustre	Marsh bedstraw	X	
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	X	
Valeriana dioica	Marsh valerian		
Valeriana officinalis	Common valerian	X	X
Knautia arvensis	Field scabious		X
Succisa pratensis	Devilsbit scabious	X	X
Matricaria discoidea	Pineapple weed		X
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow		X
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle		X
Cirsium palustre	Marsh thistle	X	
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	X	X
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		X
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort		X
Hypochaeris radicata	Catsear		X
Leontodon saxatilis	Lesser hawkbit	X	
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	X	
Hieracium species	Hawkweed	X	
Crepis paludosa	Marsh hawk's-beard	X	
Triglochin palustris	Marsh arrowgrass	X	
Narthecium ossifragum	Bog asphodel	X	
Juncus squarrosus	Heath Rush	X	
Juncus bufonius	Toad Rush		X
Juncus conglomeratus	Compact Rush		X
Juncus acutifloris	Sharp-flowered Rush		X
Epipactis palustris	Marsh helleborine	X	
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common spotted orchid	X	X
Sparganium erectum	Common bur-reed		X
Typha angustifolia	Lesser reedmace		X
Carex echinata	Star sedge		X
Carex panicea	Carnation sedge		X
Carex pilulifera	Pill sedge		X
Carex remota	Remote sedge		X
Agrostis tenuis	Fine bent		X
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass		X
Briza media	Quaking Grass		X

Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dogstail		X
Deschampsia caespitosa	Tufted hair grass		X
Deschampsia flexuosa	Wavy hair grass		X
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye grass		X
Nardus stricta	Mat Grass	X	
Phleum bertolonii	Catstail		X
Phleum pratense	Timothy		X

### Butterflies

Thanks to Keith Gittens for this and Moths

Small Tortoiseshell

Ringlet

Small Skipper

Painted Lady

Marbled White

Meadow Brown

Red Admiral

Large White

### Moths

Chimney Sweeper

Barred Straw

Smokey Wainscot

Silver-ground Carpet

### Spiders

Thanks to Jim Pewtress for this list:

Tetragnatha montana

Enpolognatha ovata sens.str

Pisaura mirabilis

### Birds

Swallow

Chiffchaff

Wood Pigeon

Great Spotted Woodpecker

House Sparrow

Stock Dove

Pied Wagtail

Wren

Buzzard

Sparrowhawk

Willow Warbler

Rook

Carrion Crow

Chaffinch

Linnet

# Keldholme Quarry / Hutton Common

## 6th September 2014

*led by Jim Pewtress*

Twelve members turned out for this predominantly botanical meeting, continuing to replicate our 1964 meetings during our anniversary year. The weather was as described 50 years ago, fine but overcast. However, for us it did start to rain towards the end of the meeting but hardly enough to deter. In order to try and re-discover the plant list found all those years ago we visited three locations; the area around the car park, the entrance to Westfield farm and Hutton Common itself. As expected at this time of year much of the flora had finished flowering but we were able to find plenty of interest. We also replicated the time taken, two and a half hours, and ended the meeting once again with celebratory cake.



As we had visited Hutton Common in 2011 and the flora here is well documented we concentrated on finding the plants on the 1964 list. Some plants were only found because of our extensive knowledge of this area as many were well gone-over and barely visible. 23 of the 31 plants on the list were found and are marked with an \* on the list below. The following plants were not found on the day but we know they were in flower early this season: Fly orchid *Ophrys insectifera*, Wild basil *Clinopodium vulgare*, Slender St John's wort *Hypericum pulchrum* and Fairy flax *Linum catharticum*. We were disappointed not to find Felwort *Gentianella amarella* which does grow here and should have been in flower. Downy rose, Devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* and Pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* have not been recorded at this site.

Other plants of interest were found and have been included on the list. It is particularly pleasing to have Small scabious *Scabiosa columbaria* growing here, near the entrance to Westfield farm, as well as Burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*. One of the specialities of this area is Deadly nightshade; we usually see its dark purple flowers, not the shiny black berries - do not eat!



The walk was also used to show those attending some of the sites where rarer plants are found in season including Hairy rock-cress *Arabis hirsuta* and Knotted clover *Trifolium striatum*. Members were also shown the site where the white-letter hairstreak butterfly *Satyrion w-album* was found early this year.

A total of 14 species of fungi were found on the day, with plenty of Fly agaric and good examples of Brown and Orange birch boletes. Many thanks to Melanie Earle for identification and the list below. Also, thanks to Jim Pewtress for the bird list.

Latin name	English Name	1964	2014
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	Beautiful St John's-wort	X	
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Rockrose	X	X
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved lime	X	X
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy flax	X	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	X	X
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved cranesbill	X	X
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Storksbill	X	
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	X	X
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	X	
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping cinquefoil	X	
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Common agrimony	X	
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad burnet	X	X
<i>Rosa mollis</i>	Downy rose	X	
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanters nightshade	X	
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Lesser Burnet saxifrage	X	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel	X	
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Houndstongue	X	X
<i>Atropa bella-donna</i>	Deadly nightshade	X	X
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great mullein	X	X

<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> agg.	Eyebright	X	X
<i>Odontites verna</i>	Red bartsia	X	
<i>Mentha x villosa</i>	Mint Apple	x	
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	X	X
<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Thyme	X	X
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild basil	X	
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood sage	X	X
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain	X	X
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater plantain	X	
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	X	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	X	
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's bedstraw	X	
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small scabious	X	
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devil's-bit scabious	X	
<i>Inula conyzae</i>	Ploughmans spikenard	X	X
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina thistle	X	X
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk thistle	X	X
<i>Cirsium eriophorum</i>	Woolly thistle	X	X
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common knapweed	X	X
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Greater knapweed	X	
<i>Picris hieracioides</i>	Oxtongue hawkweed	X	X
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Corn sowthistle	X	X
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	X	X
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony	X	X
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater butterfly orchid	X	
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly orchid	X	
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Drizzling sedge	X	

Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	Fly Agaric
<i>Amanita rubescens</i>	The Blusher
<i>Bolbitius titubans</i>	Yellow Fieldcap
<i>Chamaemyces fracidus</i>	Dewdrop Dapperling
<i>Clavaria fragilis</i>	White Spindles
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	Yellow Club
<i>Clitocybe fragrans</i>	Fragrant Funnel
<i>Coprinus comatus</i>	Shaggy Inkcap / Lawyer's Wig
<i>Hebeloma</i> sp.	Hebeloma
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i>	Blackening Waxcap
<i>Hygrocybe persistens</i> var <i>Konradii</i>	Persistent Waxcap
<i>Lactarius turpis</i>	Ugly Milkcap
<i>Leccinum scabrum</i>	Brown Birch Bolete
<i>Leccinum versipelle</i>	Orange Birch Bolete

Birds
Jay
Marsh Tit
Woodpigeon
Blackbird
Jackdaw
Pheasant
House Martin
Swallow
Bullfinch
Great Tit
Blue Tit
Greenfinch

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## Sleightholmedale 50th Anniversary Fungus Foray 4th October 2014

*led by Rhona Sutherland*

In 1964 there was a Ryenats Fungal Foray to Sleightholmedale and Gordon Simpson remembers only walking down a tree lined road, and a very fine tea at Cherry Tree Farm! There was no list of the fungi found in the club records.

However Chris Yeates from the YNU kindly sent me a comprehensive list of fungi records from Sleightholmedale for the years 1964-1969. There was only 1 record from 1964 by Willis Bramley, but then many more recorded by W.G. Bramley and others on a foray from 17th-20th September in 1965. This was followed by a foray by the British Mycological Society in the spring of 1967 on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This list includes a great many small and /or aquatic fungi which I would be incapable of identifying but there were also many with which we are familiar. Willis Bramley also wrote a short article in the YNU magazine in 1965 in which he noted 12 species found in Sleightholmedale.

So armed with a composite list I went on one preliminary recce on September 1st and then Melanie Earle and Gill Smith and my husband John accompanied me on another before we met for our Ryenats foray on October 4th. Rain was forecast on the day of the Foray and there were only 7 of us there, but we had a great foray and enjoyed all the cake the rest of you missed!

Overall we found 82 species, 9 of them new to Ryedale!! Many thanks to Melanie for all her identifications. We do not know exactly where the 1964 foray went but from the species on the 1965 list it seems likely they covered some different habitats from the mixed woodland and verges that we covered. Nonetheless 50 years on there are still masses of interesting fungi in Sleightholmedale.

We were a bit late in the season for Boletes (the pored fungi) although we found many old specimens along the roadside. Some change colour when they are bruised or cut open and this helps identify them. This one (below left) went distinctly blue green at the base and when the spore size was measured turned out to be *Leccinum cyaneobasileucum* (which used to be *L.aeruginium*).



Always keen to find new quick ways of identifying species in the field we investigated a few chemical tests. If you put KOH (potassium hydroxide) onto *Lactarius turpis* it turns instantly purple (above right). Also in identifying Russulas if you find a dark red capped Russula, under pines, and it has a red stem and yellowish gills try putting a little Ammonia on the broken gills and if it goes pink it is *Russula sardonia*!

On 28th September there were masses of bright orange *Suillus grevillei* and dull slimy *Suillus viscidus* under the larch trees, but by October 4th many of them had gone. Unfortunately also gone was the exciting specimen of *Gomphidius glutinosus* - the Slimy Spike. This is a very slimy brown capped fungus with thick wide spaced decurrent gills, and a ring like slimy zone on the white stipe which is stained black by fallen spores and which discolours bright yellow at the base. It is rather rare and certainly new to Ryedale. Foolishly we did not take a photo of it but it was also growing under the larch on Sept 28th but we could not find it on Oct 4th!



***Suillus grevillei* (left) and *S. viscidus* (right)**



The other Bolete we did find was a group of three beautiful *Boletus luridiformis* – The Scarletina Bolete, growing in rough grassland along the top edge of the wood.

The most exciting fungus we found in Sleightholmedale was *Thelephora penicillata* (below). This is an earth fan and consists of an encrusting tuft of spiky branches that starts off as a creamy beige spiky ball which gradually extends to form flattened purplish-brown branches with spiky multi-pointed white tips. We found it at the base of birch and oak trees going up through the woodland and also down by the gate before going over the bridge over the river near Pennyholme.





1965 List	English Names	2014
<b>Taken from Chris Yeates YNU and WGBramley 1965 and 1985 (RS )</b>		
Amanita fulva		Y
Arcyria denudata		Y
Cantharellus cibarius		Y
Gymnopilus penetrans		Y
Heterobasidium annosum		Y
Hygrocybe conica		Y
Laccaria amethystina		Y
Laccaria laccata		Y
Lactarius glyciomus		Y
Lactarius subdulcis		Y
Lactarius tabidus		Y
Lactarius turpis		Y
Lycoperdon perlatum		Y
Mycena acicula		Y
Paneolus papilionaceus		Y
Parasola plicatilis		Y
Paxillus involutus		Y
Piptoporus betulinus		Y
Rickenella fibula		Y
Russula ochroleuca		Y
<b>Other species found in 2014</b>		
Amanita citrina	False Deathcap	
Amanita muscaria	Fly Agaric	
Amanita rubescens	Blusher	

<i>Armillaria mellea</i>	Honey Fungus
<i>Bolbitius titubans</i>	Yellow Fieldcap
<i>Boletus badius</i>	Bay Bolete
<i>Boletus edulis</i>	Cep
<i>Calocera viscosa</i>	Yellow Stagshorn
<i>Clitocybe nebularis</i>	Clouded Funnel
<i>Dacrymyces stillatus</i>	Common Jelly Spot
<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	Hoof Fungus / Tinder Bracket
<i>Hypoxylon multifforme</i>	Birch Woodwart
<i>Lactarius deliciosus</i>	Saffron Milkcap
<i>Melanoleuca cognata</i> var <i>cognata</i>	Spring Cavalier
<i>Thelephora penicillata</i>	
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkeytail
<i>Trichaptum abietinum</i>	Purplepore Bracket
<i>Xylaria hypoxylon</i>	Candlesnuff Fungus
<i>Boletus luridiformis</i>	Scarletina Bolete
<i>Clavulina rugosa</i>	Wrinkled Club
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	Yellow Club
<i>Conocybe echinata</i>	
<i>Conocybe juniana</i> var <i>sordescens</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe insipida</i>	Spangle Waxcap
<i>Inocybe curvipes</i>	
<i>Laccaria bicolor</i>	Bicoloured Deceiver
<i>Marasmius epiphyllus</i>	Leaf Parachute
<i>Melampsorium betulinum</i>	Birch Rust
<i>Panaeolus fimicola</i>	Turf Mottlegill
<i>Panaeolus fimicola</i>	Turf Mottlegill
<i>Parasola auricoma</i>	
<i>Peziza badia</i>	Bay Cup
<i>Aleuria aurantia</i>	Orange Peel Fungus
<i>Chalciporus piperatus</i>	Peppery Bolete
<i>Clitocybe fragrans</i>	
<i>Collybia maculata</i>	Spotted Toughshank
<i>Conocybe brachypodii</i>	
<i>Coprinellus micaceus</i>	
<i>Coprinopsis atramentarius</i>	Common Inkcap
<i>Coprinopsis lagopus</i>	
<i>Coprinopsis marcescibilis</i>	
<i>Gomphidius glutinosus</i>	Slimy Spike
<i>Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca</i>	False Chanterelle
<i>Lacrymaria lacrymabunda</i>	Weeping Widow
<i>Leccinum versipelle</i>	Orange Birch Bolete
<i>Melanoleuca polioleuca</i>	Common Cavalier
<i>Mycena epipterygia</i>	

Mycena pelianthina	
Nectria cinnabarina	
Paneolina foenicicii	
Paneolus fimicola	
Parasola auricoma	
Parasola leiocephala	
Rhytisma acerinum	Sycamore Tarspot
Rickenella fibula	Orange Mosscap
Russula sardonia	Primrose brittlegill
Suillus grevillei	Larch Bolete
Suillus luteus	Slippery Jack
Suillus viscidus	Sticky Bolete
Trametes hirsuta	Hairy bracket
Tricholoma fulvum	Birch Knight

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## Arkengarthdale Black Grouse Lek 29th March 2014

*led by Mick Carroll*

A very early start for two members and two guests to catch the amazing spectacle of the black grouse lek in the Yorkshire Dales. And as we all know the vagaries of nature does not guarantee a result. However, we were not to be disappointed. This morning proved to be very fruitful despite the thick low cloud.

We briefly paused at Stang House at about 6am and immediately picked up a singing male ring ouzel, which is one of the first migrants of the season to return to the moors.



At the main site near Shaw farm we had enough visibility to see the pastures favoured by the black grouse which were occupied by curlew, lapwing, pheasant and a pair of oyster

catchers. Snipe were airborne around us and at one stage we had four in close proximity with one drumming. Eight golden plover were recorded during one fly past.

After about an hour the black grouse made their appearance. Initially they were in one pasture, recording five males and three females. We got the odd male chasing a female and males fronting up other males in full display with the accompanied vocals. At one stage we had two males in battle actually making contact with each other. There was also the curious happening of both male and female black grouse independently perched on walls? Towards the end we had two groups, a small group of four in one pasture and another larger group of nine in a top pasture. The scopes were a very welcome addition.

The following birds were recorded: black grouse, red grouse, pheasant, oyster catcher, snipe, golden plover, ring ouzel, lapwing, skylark, meadow pipit, starling, lesser black backed gull.

At 8am we departed with our leader and guest going to Tan Hill Inn for a well deserved breakfast. However, en route they picked up a second lek to the south west of the first. They also had two redshank courting south of Tan Hill. Along Wensleydale south of Middleham there were three sand martins, coal tit, long tailed tit, goldcrest, heron, wigeon and chiffchaff. Finally at Nosterfield there were tufted duck, goldeneye, wigeon and teal.

A richly rewarding trip and well worth the effort.

## Dawn Chorus, Sutton Bank 3rd May 2013

*led by Jim Pewtress*

Six members assembled at Sutton Bank on a clear and cold morning.



Our first walk took us to the reasonably new footpath through a cleared area with plenty of regeneration. Here we saw Linnet, Great Tit, Siskin, Willow Warbler and Song Thrush. On our way to the path down to Garbutt Wood we had good views of singing Garden Warbler and Blackcap. In Garbutt Wood we heard at least three Redstarts with good views of two of them. Blackcaps, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Wren, Chiffchaff, Chaffinch, Blackbird were all heard or seen with Coot, Mallard and Tufted Duck on Lake Gormire. Jackdaws were seen carrying nesting material to their nests in the escarpment and the usual Woodpigeon.



A pellet found on a boulder was from a Jackdaw (now believed to be Little Owl) and contained the remains of beetles and vegetation. After a steep climb back to the escarpment we had excellent views of a male Redstart.

On the way back along the escarpment good views of a Whitethroat singing and at the car park Bullfinch and Swallow. The morning was rounded off with cake, courtesy of Mags.

It was nice to be able to actually see the birds singing rather than just listening.

Two of us then went on to see the Peregrines on the escarpment and both birds were present with the female sat on the nest.



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# 2014 Annual Recorders Reports

## Bird Report 2014

Jim Pewtress

**Note:** Most records referring to Old Malton are along the River Derwent to the A64 and return.

### **Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor*

Six on flood water at Skelton Wath Farm on 31<sup>st</sup> January when two at Ryemouth, two at Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> February with 11 on floods at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup>. Three at Newburgh Priory on 23<sup>rd</sup>, one on 21<sup>st</sup> April and two on 18<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Whooper Swan** *Cygnus Cygnus*

Four flew NW over Starfitt Farm, Kirkbymoorside on 9<sup>th</sup> March and 17 at Old Malton FC on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Pink-footed Goose** *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Large flock north at Sykes on 10<sup>th</sup> February and 50 south at Gilling on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Greylag Goose** *Anser anser*

Few sightings reported with nine in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April, ten at Newburgh Priory on 21<sup>st</sup> with seven at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Up to three reported from elsewhere.

### **Canada Goose** *Branta Canadensis*

Ten at Hawnbly on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 75 at Priorpot Lane, Norton on 21<sup>st</sup> October with 25 on 24<sup>th</sup>. Up to eight reported from elsewhere.

### **[Barnacle Goose]** *Branta leucopsis*

The usual summer flock was at Flamingoland with 50 on 17<sup>th</sup> July and 80 on 7<sup>th</sup> August. Poor breeding season with only two juveniles.

### **Shelduck** *Tadorna Tadorna*

One at Low Marishes on 31<sup>st</sup> January, two on floods at Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February with four at Newburgh Priory on 1<sup>st</sup> March, two on 21<sup>st</sup> April and one on 18<sup>th</sup> May and 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

### **[Muscovy Duck]** *Cairina moschata*

Two in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

260 on floods at Skelton Wath Farm on 31<sup>st</sup> January when 20 at Ryemouth.

**Teal** *Anas crecca*

Ten at Skelwith Wath Farm on 31<sup>st</sup> January when 50 on floods at Ryemouth, four in Duncombe Park on 19<sup>th</sup> March and 17 at Ryemouth-Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> November and 12 at Newburgh Priory on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

40 on floods at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January, ten at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 120 at Newburgh Priory on 21<sup>st</sup> April with 27 on 18<sup>th</sup> May and ten at Old Malton on 21<sup>st</sup>. 35 at Newburgh Priory on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Female sitting on 12 eggs in Rosedale on 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**Pintail** *Anas acuta*

Three males at Skelton Wath Farm on 31<sup>st</sup> January.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

Male at Newburgh Priory on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

Few reports with single figures from Ryemouth and Newburgh Priory.

**Goosander** *Mergus merganser*

Nine incl one male at Gilling Lakes on 3<sup>rd</sup> February with three redheads on 13<sup>th</sup> March with a pair in Duncombe Park on 19<sup>th</sup>. Two probably juveniles at Ryemouth on 8<sup>th</sup> August and two males and six red-heads at Gilling bottom lake on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**Red-legged Partridge** *Alectoris rufa*

Birds are released in the area for shooting so it is not unusual to see in excess of 60 birds at various sites.

**Red Grouse** *Lagopus lagopus*

Single figure numbers are reported from the North Yorks Moors throughout the year with double figure counts of 15 at Bransdale on 6<sup>th</sup> August and 20 at Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey Partridge** *Perdix perdix*

Two at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Pair in garden at Rosedale on 11<sup>th</sup> March seen regularly. Three pairs at Spaunton on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

**Pheasant**

As always many released by the shooting syndicates.

**[Reeves's Pheasant]** *Syrmaticus reevesii*

First record of this attractive pheasant. One reported in Lower Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Two at Salton on 5<sup>th</sup> January, six flying east at Kirkbymoorside on 28<sup>th</sup>, five flew east at West Ness on 23<sup>rd</sup> April with two at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November. Two at Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Two at the usual site in Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> December with one remaining to year end.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

Up to three at Old Malton on various dates between 16<sup>th</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> November, two at Howkeld on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and a juvenile at a new pond south of Kirkbymoorside on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. 10 at Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> December. 15 at Ellerburn on 28<sup>th</sup> December. Estimated 34 pairs bred at Sproxton. There were 15 nests in Sleightholmedale in 2006 but after a gradual decline there were none in 2014.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

One at Gilling Lower Lake on 14<sup>th</sup> March and two at Nettle Dale on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

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**Red Kite** *Milvus milvus*

One over Sykes on 26<sup>th</sup> May, Marton on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and Pickering on 19<sup>th</sup> August

**Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*

A well watched bird at Elleron Lake on 9<sup>th</sup> March and one in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

Reported from throughout the area.

**Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*

Single hovering at Ousegill, Bransdale on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*

Two at Oswaldkirk on 21<sup>st</sup> January and 15<sup>th</sup> March, two at Nunnington on 11<sup>th</sup> February and five at Rievaulx Terrace on 15<sup>th</sup>, two at Hovingham Mill Wood on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Old Malton on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August with four at Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup>. Seven soaring over Spaunton Quarry on 23<sup>rd</sup> August and four at Old Malton on 16<sup>th</sup> November. There were numerous reports of single birds throughout the area however only hearsay of breeding at Appleton Common area and Gilamoor and Kirkbymoorside.

**Rough-legged Buzzard** *Buteo lagopus*

A good year with up to three reported in Bransdale from 26<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

One south at Kirkbymoorside on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

Common species usually of single birds, occasionally two. Bred Rosedale East with four downy juveniles on 3<sup>rd</sup> June with nest empty by 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*

Single Roulston Scar, Sutton Bank on 18<sup>th</sup> January, Kirkbymoorside on 1<sup>st</sup> February, Rosedale on 3<sup>rd</sup>, High North Holme Farm, Salton on 5<sup>th</sup>, one at Blakey Ridge on 18<sup>th</sup> April, Shunner Howe 13<sup>th</sup> May, Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup> August and Old Malton on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Pair once again bred at Sutton Bank but only one chick hatched to fledging despite laying four eggs. Adults were seen again on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**Hobby** *Falco Subbuteo*

Single in Bransdale on 7<sup>th</sup> August.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius*

Just a single bird this year on Rudland Rigg on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*

Single at Flamingoland on several dates in December.

**Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

A common bird throughout the area. Only counts; two at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 14 at Newburgh Priory on 1<sup>st</sup> March and four on 18<sup>th</sup> May with five at Espersykes-Ryemouth on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Pair bred as usual at Kirkbymoorside with just one brood of two chicks also bred at Spaunton with the first egg laid 10<sup>th</sup> April with complete clutch of three by 13<sup>th</sup>. Three chicks seen in nest on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**Coot** *Fulica atrica*

Six at Newburgh Priory on 1<sup>st</sup> March and four on 18<sup>th</sup> May otherwise few other reports.

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*

Recorded from Old Malton area with two on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 14<sup>th</sup> May with one on 21<sup>st</sup>. Pair at Appleton-le-Moors on 22<sup>nd</sup> March and four at R. Rye, Helmsley on 21<sup>st</sup> April. At Appleton-le-Moors on 8<sup>th</sup> May bird sat on nest containing 3 eggs with second adult in vicinity. On 2nd June at 1115am one egg crack nibbled about one inch and by 1530 slightly longer and second egg with small hole. On 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 0715 both cracks a bit longer and at 1645 one chick hatched. On 4th Jun second chick hatched at nest and first chick was about 12 inches from nest the third egg did not hatch. An agitated pair were flushed in Rosedale on 15<sup>th</sup> May.

**Golden Plover** *Pluvialis apricaria*

Eighteen at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> February and 200 at Espersykes-Ryemouth on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Scattering of other records from Blakey Ridge and Bransdale with six on 6<sup>th</sup> August which included a large chick. Single in Rosedale on 18<sup>th</sup> March with two on 4<sup>th</sup> April and nine at Srindele Thorn, Spaunton on 1<sup>st</sup> May. 20 at Spaunton on 31<sup>st</sup> December.

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*

90 at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 30 in Rosedale on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 105 at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup>, 65 at Old Malton on 5<sup>th</sup> August with 45 on 15<sup>th</sup> and 95 at Old Malton Moor on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. 200 at Sutton Bank Gliding Club on 28<sup>th</sup>, 45 at Old Malton Moor on 9<sup>th</sup> October with 18 on 9<sup>th</sup>, 75 at Old Malton on 24<sup>th</sup> and 40 at Espersykes-Ryemouth on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

A nest in stubble at Appleton-le-Moors was protected during ploughing.

Similarly a bird sat in a winter wheat field at Kirkbymoorside for a long period of time until you could barely see her head above the growing wheat. The outcome was unknown.

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata*

More records than normal this year with birds back on the moors in late February but only counts of four at Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April, eight at Bonfield Ghyll, Bransdale on 14<sup>th</sup> June. On lower areas reported from Hovingham Mill Wood, Newburgh Priory, Old Malton and Kirkbymoorside where two pairs bred in usual area with two and one chick respectively..

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

Two north over Shunner Howe on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

Single bird at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

One at Ryemouth and at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August with one at Priorpot Lane, Norton on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

Rare record from the area with one at Kirkbymoorside on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Bird calling over the playing field at dusk.

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

One at Birch Wood, Bilsdale on 15<sup>th</sup> February. Nine flushed from rough pasture and moorland on a 2 mile walk in Rosedale on 6<sup>th</sup> March, one at Sutton Bank on 14<sup>th</sup> June and Spiers House, Cropton on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Remarkably one flew up the main street in Kirkbymoorside, approx. 8 feet above the road at 10.30am on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Three flushed at Appleton Mill on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

Single birds at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January, singles flushed from Rosedale and Shunner Howe on 26<sup>th</sup> April, Rosedale East on 30<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May, single at Blakey Ridge on 28<sup>th</sup> with five at Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup> June, two at Hartoft on 31<sup>st</sup> July, one at High Askew on 26<sup>th</sup> August and one at Espersykes-Ryemouth on 16<sup>th</sup> November, Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> December when two at Pickering..

**Black-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

60 at Old Malton on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 120 on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 45 on 13<sup>th</sup> and 200 on floods on 19<sup>th</sup> with 40 on 16<sup>th</sup> November. 80 at Newburgh Priory on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Up to 60 in the early and late part of the year at Flamingoland. 45 at Newburgh Priory on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**Common Gull** *Larus canus*

40 at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> February, 50 at Newburgh Priory on 1<sup>st</sup> March with 80 at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus*

Just three records of singles from Cropton Bank Woods, Old Malton and Newburgh Priory.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*

Up to two reported from Old Malton from 29<sup>th</sup> January to 22<sup>nd</sup> June with five on 30<sup>th</sup>, six on 8<sup>th</sup> August and 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Two on 24<sup>th</sup> November and eight on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Up to two reported from Farndale, Cropton Bank Woods, Priorpot Lane, Norton, Bransdale, Pickering and Thornton –le-Dale.

**Yellow-legged Gull** *Larus michahellis*

An adult on Kirkbymoorside playing field on 27<sup>th</sup> March.

**Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia*

Reported from throughout the area with parties of 10 at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 15 at Rosedale East on 3<sup>rd</sup> February with 10 on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 16 at Old Malton on 13<sup>th</sup>.

40 at Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 16 on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 35 on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 18 on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and 14 on 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25 on 24<sup>th</sup> November and 16 on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas*

Up to seven reported from throughout the area with party of ten at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Bred in nest boxes at Flamingoland.

**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus*

As expected seen throughout the area and often in large flocks but few actual counts. 300 at Kirkbymoorside on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 150 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 5<sup>th</sup>, 90 at Old Malton on 6<sup>th</sup> April, with 75 on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 160 on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 150 on 31<sup>st</sup> with 100 on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*

Up to five reported from throughout the area.

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*

Single reported from Ampleforth on 26<sup>th</sup> April. Up to two birds reported at Sutton Bank from 28<sup>th</sup> May to 9<sup>th</sup> July. Elsewhere one at Gilling Castle on 27<sup>th</sup>, two at Muffles Rigg, Cropton on 28<sup>th</sup> when one at Sutherland Lodge and Spiers House.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*

First reported from Sykes on 18<sup>th</sup> April then Rosedale on 24<sup>th</sup> April several weeks before the next when three at Hole of Horcum on 11<sup>th</sup> May quickly followed by singles at Rosedale on 16<sup>th</sup>, Hawnby

on 18<sup>th</sup> and Cropton Forest on 19<sup>th</sup>. Four were watched and filmed at Newgate Bank on 21<sup>st</sup>. Singles reported from Saltergate, Bonfield Ghyll, Thornton – le- Dale and Black Hambleton.

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

Single at Nunnington on 10<sup>th</sup> January and Sinnington on 30<sup>th</sup> June with one at Sykes on 27<sup>th</sup> October were the only records despite countless verbal reports.

**Little Owl** *Athene noctua*

One at Harome on 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January and at Butterwick on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tawny Owl** *Strix aluco*

Singles reported from throughout the area with two at Spiers House on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

**Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*

One calling at Sykes on 8<sup>th</sup> June. It would seem the felling of plantations at Sutton Bank is proving beneficial with two on 14<sup>th</sup> June and one on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Present in Cropton at Spiers House on 14<sup>th</sup> June and three on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. One churring at Spaunton Moor on 3<sup>rd</sup> August and an adult and two juveniles at High Askew on 26<sup>th</sup>. Four nests were found by bracken sprayers at Hartoft.

**Swift** *Apus apus*

First birds reported were three at Priorport Lane, Norton and a single at Kirkbymoorside on 6<sup>th</sup> May where ten were present on 7<sup>th</sup> with two at Pickering. Ten at Helmsley on 9<sup>th</sup>, Thornton – le – Dale on 11<sup>th</sup>, 12 at Priorport Lane on 13<sup>th</sup> and 13 at Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup>.

35 at Old Malton on 21<sup>st</sup> July and Priorpoint Lane on 5<sup>th</sup> August. Seemed to be a good breeding season with 60 at Slingsby on 30<sup>th</sup> July and 100 at Kirkbymoorside on 1<sup>st</sup> August with two on 10<sup>th</sup> when four at Priorport Lane, 20 at Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, one on 28<sup>th</sup> and at Pickering on 5<sup>th</sup> September.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Single bird seen briefly on telegraph pole at Ampleforth on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Possibly the same at Ugthorpe, Castleton on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

Singles reported from Rosedale Abbey, Old Malton, Nawton/Beadlam, Pickering, and Priorport Lane, Norton. Bird ringed at Flamingoland on 7<sup>th</sup> August. Two at Shaken Bridge, Hawnby on 4<sup>th</sup> April

**Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis*

Singles at Lascelles Lane, Old Malton on 27<sup>th</sup> February, Duncombe Park on 5<sup>th</sup> March, Stordom Wood, Hawnby on 10<sup>th</sup>, Rosedale on 24<sup>th</sup>, Farndale on 30<sup>th</sup>, Hawnby on 18<sup>th</sup> May and Sutton Bank on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Juvenile with two adults at Rosedale East on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Singles in Bransdale on 8<sup>th</sup> and Rosedale on 20<sup>th</sup> November

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*

Up to two reported from throughout the area.

**Lesser-spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos minor*

Family party at feeders in early summer and individual seen at same site in Rosedale in December.

**Magpie** *Pica pica*

Most records come from Old Malton throughout the year with up to nine birds.

**Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*

Reported from Duncombe Park (3), Gilling Park, Farndale, Cropton Bank Woods, Rievaulx and Old Malton (2), Low Park (3) and Pickering (2). Four in territorial dispute in Kirkdale on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula*

Present throughout the area with small parties of up to 14. 40 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The autumn flocks of 300-400 morning and evening over Kirkbymoorside continued from end of August to mid-September.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*

Reported from throughout the area with only notable counts of 100 at Old Malton on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 75 at Sparrow Hall, Salton 3<sup>rd</sup> February with 45 at Old Malton on 15<sup>th</sup> August with 150 at Low Park, Kirkbymoorside on 29<sup>th</sup>. 60 at Old Malton on 24<sup>th</sup> November and 65 on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Rookeries: Welburn, Kirkbymoorside 51 – Cartoft, Keldholme 23 – Rievaulx Terrace 41 – Nunnington 15.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*

Whilst reported from throughout the area the only counts were; Ten at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup> January, six at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 17 at Old Malton on 19<sup>th</sup>, seven in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April, six at Hutton-le-Hole on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 12 at Old Malton on 25<sup>th</sup> August and 30 at Espersykes on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*

Reported from woodland along the southern boundary of the North Yorks Moors, Gilling and Old Malton with the largest count of five at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

**Blue Tit** *Cyanistes caeruleus*

As expected parties of five birds reported from throughout the area with 20 at Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> January and 25 on 25<sup>th</sup>, eight at Rosedale East on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, nine at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, eight on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 18 at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 15 at Old Malton on 15<sup>th</sup> and eight on 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Great Tit** *Parus major*

Parties of up to 6 recorded throughout the area. Ten at Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January and 12 at Gilling Castle on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Coal Tit** *Periparus ater*

Twenty present at Sutton Bank Centre on 4<sup>th</sup> January otherwise up to four reported from elsewhere.

**Willow Tit** *Poecile montana*

Not usually recorded in the area but over several years reported from Bransdale however grid reference refers to Helmsley. Four at Sutton Bank Centre on 4<sup>th</sup> January and singles at Helmsley Castle on 1<sup>st</sup> February, Hawnby on 10<sup>th</sup> March, Hutton-le-Hole on 7<sup>th</sup> April, Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> May, Helmsley on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and Sutton Bank on 13<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Marsh Tit** *Poecile palustris*

Single birds recorded throughout the area with three at Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> January, two at Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February, three in Duncombe Park on 25<sup>th</sup>, two at Gilling Castle on 11<sup>th</sup> May and two at Old Malton on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

Up to four reported from Moor House-Bransdale, Espersykes, Old Malton, Thornton-le-Dale, Bonfield Ghyll-Bransdale, Hagg Lane-Kirkbymoorside and Rosedale. No reports from the agricultural areas to the south.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

50 at breeding colony on R.Rye, Helmsley on 21<sup>st</sup> April, ten at Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> May and two at Old Malton on 8<sup>th</sup> August were the only records received. Worryingly the colony in Spaunton Quarry was deserted this year with no sightings of birds on regular visits.

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

First returning bird at Kirkbymoorside on 8<sup>th</sup> April with possibly same roosting overnight in local outbuilding. Singles at Helmsley on 11<sup>th</sup>, Sykes on 13<sup>th</sup>, Gilling on 14<sup>th</sup>, Newton Dale on 16<sup>th</sup> and Thornton-le-Dale on 20<sup>th</sup>. Counts; six at Hutton-le-Hole on 18<sup>th</sup> May, and Priorpot Lane, Norton on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 16 at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup>, 22 on 30<sup>th</sup> and 14 on 7<sup>th</sup> July with 12 on 21<sup>st</sup>. 47 at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August, ten at Old Malton on 15<sup>th</sup> and Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup>, 60 at Kirkbymoorside on 17<sup>th</sup> with 75 at Priorpot Lane on 25<sup>th</sup>. 120 in West Lund Lane, Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

First report from Thornton-le-Dale with two on 20<sup>th</sup> April with the next being three at Priorpot Lane on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and Sinnington and Cropton on 9<sup>th</sup>. 35 at Kirkbymoorside on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 50 at Thornton-le-Dale on 11<sup>th</sup>, 160 at Gilling on 16<sup>th</sup>, 150 at Priorpot Lane on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 25 on 23<sup>rd</sup> with six on 26<sup>th</sup> the last.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*

Eleven at Marton on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 20 at Appleton Mill on 13<sup>th</sup>, nine at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup>, Birch Wood, Bilsdale on 15<sup>th</sup> February and Old Malton on 19<sup>th</sup>. To adults feeding six juveniles at Black Plantation on 11<sup>th</sup> May, seven at Old Malton on 11<sup>th</sup> June, eight at Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup> June, ten at Reeking Gill, Rosedale on 24<sup>th</sup> August, nine at Priorpot Lane on 13<sup>th</sup> November and seven at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Up to six reported from elsewhere.

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*

First bird at Gilling on 14<sup>th</sup> March followed by one at Rievaulx and Kirkbymoorside on 15<sup>th</sup>, two at Thornton-le-Dale on 23<sup>rd</sup> when two at Kirkby Mills, one at Priorpot Lane on 24<sup>th</sup> and Farndale and Lowna on 30<sup>th</sup>. Four were present at Kirkdale on 5<sup>th</sup> April and at Old Malton on 6<sup>th</sup> with three on 30<sup>th</sup> and six on 14<sup>th</sup> May. Six at Sutton Bank on 5<sup>th</sup> June, five at Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup>, four on 8<sup>th</sup> August, five on 15<sup>th</sup> and seven on 28<sup>th</sup>. Four at Rievaulx Terrace on 8<sup>th</sup> September with single late birds at Nunnington on 12<sup>th</sup>, Thornton-le-Dale on 15<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, Priorpot Lane on 27<sup>th</sup> and Old Malton on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Reports of singing birds from Kirkbymoorside, Gilling and Oswaldkirk between 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

First from Old Malton on 6<sup>th</sup> April the next at Sykes on 12<sup>th</sup>, two in Rosedale on 18<sup>th</sup> with three at Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup>. Two at Hovingham on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Locker Low Wood on 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sinnington Wood on 9<sup>th</sup>, three at Hawby Hill on 10<sup>th</sup> with four at Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Nine were at Sutton Bank on 5<sup>th</sup> June, seven at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup>, five on 30<sup>th</sup>, four on 21<sup>st</sup> with four at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August and a single at Reeking Gill, Rosedale on 24<sup>th</sup>. Very few reported from south of the area the most being three from Hovingham Mill Wood.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*

First returning birds at Priorpot Lane, Norton on 7<sup>th</sup> April, Gilling Redcar on 12<sup>th</sup>, two at Thornton-le-Dale on 13<sup>th</sup>, male and female in Manor Vale, Kirkbymoorside on 15<sup>th</sup> and a male along R.Rye, Helmsley on 21<sup>st</sup> and four at Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup>. Three at Hovingham Mill Wood on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup> with four on 21<sup>st</sup> May and 22<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June. Last at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August.

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*

Singles at Old Malton and Thornton-le-Dale on 30<sup>th</sup> April, two at Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup> May with three on 21<sup>st</sup>, single in Rosedale on 29<sup>th</sup> and Gilling Park House on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*

Most records from Old Malton area with four on 30<sup>th</sup> April, eight on 14<sup>th</sup> May, seven on 21<sup>st</sup>, nine on 6<sup>th</sup> June, eight on 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, nine on 30<sup>th</sup> and eight on 7<sup>th</sup> July thereafter up to four until 25<sup>th</sup> August. Elsewhere singles at Stape Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> May, Hole of Horcum on 21<sup>st</sup> and Sutton Bank on 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Two at Castle Howard Lake on 22<sup>nd</sup> April with one at Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup> April, four on 14<sup>th</sup> May, three on 21<sup>st</sup> and one on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

**Waxwing** *Bombycilla garrulus*

Report of Waxwings in Gilling in early December.

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*

Single at High Row Myers Farm, Hartoft on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea*

Seems to be well established in the area, mostly single birds but with two at Sutton Bank on 12<sup>th</sup> January and three in Duncombe Park on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*

Scattered records from throughout the area usually single birds but three at Appleton Mill on 13<sup>th</sup> January, two at Gilling village on 11<sup>th</sup> May and Helmsley on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. An under recorded bird.

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Records from Old Malton to A64 and return; six on 7<sup>th</sup> February, eight on 19<sup>th</sup>, four on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, five on 9<sup>th</sup>, 11 on 6<sup>th</sup> April, five on 30<sup>th</sup>, six on 14<sup>th</sup> May, ten on 21<sup>st</sup>, six on 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June with seven on 30<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July. 11 on 21<sup>st</sup> July and 25<sup>th</sup> August, six on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, eight on 31<sup>st</sup>, and six on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Elsewhere: Five in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April and 14 at Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup> August. Nest found on 16<sup>th</sup> May with at least four eggs had nestling on 6<sup>th</sup> June. As expected recorded from throughout the area.

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

Small parties of 30 at Skelton Wath Farm on 31<sup>st</sup> January when 20 at Low Marishes, 12 at Helmsley Castle on 1<sup>st</sup> February and 100 at Sparrow Hall, Skelton on 3<sup>rd</sup>. Post breeding flocks of up to 60 birds in the Kirkbymoorside area in August and September. 25 at Black Plantation on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Dipper** *Cinclus cinclus*

Sightings of one or two birds from usual sites at Duncombe Park, Lowna, Hawnby, Snilesworth as well as Hartoft Beck, Hole of Horcum, Keldholme and Newtondale. Fledged young were seen at Pennyholme, Sleightholmedale on 17<sup>th</sup> May. Walks over several days along a 10-11 miles stretch of the River Seven in Rosedale produced seven territories with five pairs and two singles. One nest was in the process of being built and observed over several days, however it was never occupied and no other nest was found nearby.

**Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus*

First bird back at East Mines, Rosedale on 21<sup>st</sup> March with birds singing and back on territory by 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Birds in Bransdale also on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April. Single on Spaunton Moor on 18<sup>th</sup> May, Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup> June (an old breeding area), Blakey Ridge on 16<sup>th</sup> October and two late birds in Bransdale on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Breeding in Rosedale this year was another good one with 21 territories recorded, the second best - 23 in 2012. Productivity was below the long term average due to high levels of predation which was disappointing.

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula*

Thirty in orchard at Kirkbymoorside from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January, 16 at Nunnington Hall on 31<sup>st</sup>, ten in Rosedale East on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 11 at Old Malton on 19<sup>th</sup>, ten at Pickering on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 12 at Old Malton on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 11 on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 16 on 30<sup>th</sup>, ten on 7<sup>th</sup> July and 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> November and 35 on 16<sup>th</sup>, 14 on 24<sup>th</sup> November and 11 on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Manor Vale, Kirkbymoorside held up to 20 birds from October to year end. Up to nine recorded elsewhere.

**Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris***

Ninety five at Lastingham on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 160 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 5<sup>th</sup>, 100 at Low Marishes and Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup>, 100 in Kirkbymoorside on 2<sup>nd</sup> February with 200 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 42 at Old Malton on 9<sup>th</sup> March with a big flock in Rudland area after muck spreading on 20<sup>th</sup>. Smaller numbers elsewhere with the last on 16<sup>th</sup> May in Rosedale.

First returning birds were three at Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, with 55 on 31<sup>st</sup>, 43 on 13<sup>th</sup> November and 75 on 16<sup>th</sup>. 12 in Manor Vale on 26<sup>th</sup> October and 18 at Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos***

Glad to see more records than usual. Birds singing from 7<sup>th</sup> February with five on 19<sup>th</sup> at Old Malton. Eight feeding in a Yew Tree at Ings Lane, Kirkbymoorside on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November. Elsewhere up to four birds reported. Singing reported late November and early December.

**Redwing *Turdus iliacus***

25 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 43 at Old Malton on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 25 at Low Marishes on 31<sup>st</sup> and 60 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and big flock in Rudland area after muck spreading on 20<sup>th</sup> March were the only counts in the early months.

Seventeen were the first returning birds at Priorpoint Lane, Norton on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Movement through the area on 16<sup>th</sup> November with 70 at Espersykes and three parties of 100, 150 and 70 at Kirkbymoorside between 8.30am – 9.30am. 28 at Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus***

Up to four reported from throughout the area with 20 along the Gillamoor Road on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

**Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata***

Returning birds at Sykes on 11<sup>th</sup> May, where they again nested, Rosedale on 16<sup>th</sup>, Hawnby (2) on 18<sup>th</sup>, Snilesworth on 19<sup>th</sup> and Priorpot Lane, Norton (2) on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Single birds at Old Malton on 11<sup>th</sup> June, Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup>, Gilling Park on 22<sup>nd</sup> and Byland Abbey on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Nest with five well grown young at Nunnington Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Nested again at Horn End, Farndale.

Juvenile at Helmsley playing field on 6<sup>th</sup> July, Old Malton on 7<sup>th</sup> and adult feeding three juveniles at Hutton Common on 23<sup>rd</sup> with singles at Gilling Castle Wood on 26<sup>th</sup>, Gilling Wood on 26<sup>th</sup> and Pickering on 31<sup>st</sup>. Three at Old Malton on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, one in Bransdale on 7<sup>th</sup> and a juvenile in Kirkbymoorside garden on 8<sup>th</sup> was unsuccessfully trying to catch butterflies on the Buddleia. The last were five at Old Malton on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Robin *Erithacus rubecula***

As always reported from throughout the area. Old Malton counts were: eight on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 11 on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and 10 on 21<sup>st</sup> with seven on 31<sup>st</sup> and 14 on 16<sup>th</sup> November with five on 24<sup>th</sup>. Five in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Bird sat on nest containing 6 eggs on 27<sup>th</sup> May, built in roll of masking tape in shed at Appleton-le-Moors. Hatched on 3 Jun, still in nest on 13 Jun and fledged to within shed on 14 Jun, at least 5 when nest empty.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Single bird at Locker Low Wood, Hawnby on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May seen inspecting nest boxes but outcome not known. Single in old garden at Cockayne on 6<sup>th</sup> May and south Bransdale on 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Early arrivals with a male at Sykes on 11<sup>th</sup> April, Reeking Gill, Rosedale on 13<sup>th</sup> and with two males and female on 16<sup>th</sup>. Two males in Rosedale on 4<sup>th</sup> May, single at Cropton Bank Wood on 9<sup>th</sup>, Hawnby Hill on 10<sup>th</sup>, Rosedale on 16<sup>th</sup> and three at Locker Low Wood on 18<sup>th</sup>. Single in Bransdale on 8<sup>th</sup> June, three at Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup>, juvenile being fed at Sleightholmedale on 18<sup>th</sup>, young at Sykes on 19<sup>th</sup> and two in Helmsley on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Single at Newton Dale Halt on 30<sup>th</sup> July and two at Middleton Moor on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Nested again at same site at Appleton Common when female sat on nest containing 6 eggs in shed roof. By 5<sup>th</sup> June nest had been abandoned still with 6 eggs. A new site reported in Rosedale.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*

Single at Ousegill on 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> May when a male at Spindle Thorn, Spaunton Moor and singing male at Ousegill on 12<sup>th</sup>. Twelve at Fen Bog on 16<sup>th</sup> June with a pair feeding three young at Ousegill on 11<sup>th</sup> July.

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*

Female at Spindle Thorn, Spaunton Moor on 6<sup>th</sup> May with a pair at East Moors, Bransdale on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and at Sturdy Bank, Rosedale East on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Two males at Rosedale East on 21<sup>st</sup> March, pair 1<sup>st</sup> April at Rosedale East, female at Shunner Howe on 26<sup>th</sup>, single at Blakey Ridge on 28<sup>th</sup> May, three Rosedale on 29<sup>th</sup>, Bransdale on 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June. Two possible juveniles at Dale Head, Rosedale on 26<sup>th</sup> August with one on 31<sup>st</sup> and two near Ings Farm, Kirkbymoorside on 30<sup>th</sup> September. Plenty of juveniles in Rosedale in July.

**Dunnock** *Prunella modularis*

Recorded throughout the area with up to five on several occasions at Old Malton.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

As usual recorded throughout the area often in small groups with the following counts; 20 at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 15 at Ryemouth on 31<sup>st</sup>, 40 Rosedale East on 2<sup>nd</sup> February with 30 on 3<sup>rd</sup> when 20 at Sparrow Hall, Salton, ten in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April and Old Malton on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

25 at Marton on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 20 near Pickering on 14<sup>th</sup>, 15 roosting at Low Park, Kirkbymoorside from mid-September to year end. Five pairs bred in boxes close by. Seen around Kirkbymoorside usually in small parties of up to 10. Eight at Black Plantation on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

Single at Thornton-le-Dale on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, Helmsley Castle on 1<sup>st</sup> February, pair at Appleton Mill on 16<sup>th</sup> March, one at Bransdale on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, two at Thornton-le-Dale on 6<sup>th</sup> and Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup>. Female

at Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> May, feeding nestlings at Thornton-le-Dale on 10<sup>th</sup> and carrying food at Rosedale East on same day. Family party of two adults and juvenile in Northdale, Rosedale on 8<sup>th</sup> June and family party of two adults and three juveniles in Beckdale, Helmsley on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Singles also reported from Bonfield Ghyll and Priorpot Lane, Norton. Nest at Rosedale with six eggs on 14<sup>th</sup> April was predated by 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba yarellii*

Reported from throughout the area but mostly as single birds with occasional two. 20 following the plough at Spaunton on 26<sup>th</sup> March and 14 feeding in field at Rosedale on 9<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*

Singing birds at Sykes on 29<sup>th</sup> April with one at Hawnby Hill on 10<sup>th</sup> May with two on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Present at Sutton Bank on 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June, Bransdale on 8<sup>th</sup> and Sutton Bank on 14<sup>th</sup>. Eight in clear fell at Hartoft on 10<sup>th</sup> June.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pretensis*

Fourteen in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April and eight at Bonfield Ghyll on 14<sup>th</sup> June were the only counts. As expected records came from the moorland and associated valleys with the exception of Espersykes in November and Gilling in December.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*

Few records this year. Fifty at Swineherd Lane, Kirkbymoorside from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> January and ten from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February. Finch flocks numbering 200 at Pheasant feeder between Sykes and Fadmoor comprised mostly of this species on 25<sup>th</sup> February with 50 still present at Boon Hill on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Present at Wass Bank on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, two at Ravenswick, Kirkbymoorside from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December and two in local garden from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs*

Sixty at Sutton Bank Center on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 20 at Kirkbymoorside on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 22 at Rosedale East on 2<sup>nd</sup> February with 45 on 3<sup>rd</sup>. 15 at Pickering on 24<sup>th</sup>, 14 in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 11 at Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup> May with 13 on 22<sup>nd</sup> October were the only double figure counts.

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

A welcome increase in reports. Whilst pairs were reported from throughout the area counts from Old Malton with six on 16<sup>th</sup> January, seven on 9<sup>th</sup> February, six on 7<sup>th</sup> July and post breeding flocks of 10 on 15<sup>th</sup> August and 15 on 28<sup>th</sup> with eight on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October with seven on 22<sup>nd</sup> and five on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Ten at Newgate Bank on 25<sup>th</sup> January and five at Appleton Mill on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

**Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris*

Sad demise of this once numerous bird with the only counts of six at Rosedale East on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, eight in Farndale on 7<sup>th</sup> April and five at Old Malton on 2<sup>nd</sup> October otherwise just ones and twos.

**Linnet** *Linaria cannabina*

Fifteen at Old Malton on 14<sup>th</sup> May and 12 at Espersykes on 8<sup>th</sup> August otherwise reports of up to five birds from moorland edges.

**Common Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra*

Ten at Gilling on 21<sup>st</sup> February and small parties seen in early months with report of birds at Yearsley Moor. Small flock over Sykes on 16<sup>th</sup> March and 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*

Although widely reported the only double figure counts were; 10 at Kirkbymoorside on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 14 in Rosedale on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 32 at Espersykes/Ryemouth on 8<sup>th</sup> August, ten at Black Hambleton on 19<sup>th</sup>, 20 Rosedale East 31<sup>st</sup> August and Old Malton on 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 10 at Pickering on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Siskin** *Spinus spinus*

Few reports this year and the only counts being 30 at Nunnington Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> January, single male at Rosedale on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, four at Sutton Bank centre and Pickering on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 50 at Flamingoland on 7<sup>th</sup> July, ten in Rosedale on 14<sup>th</sup> and large flock at Sykes on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Lesser Redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret*

Two on feeders in Rosedale on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**Twite** *Acanthis flavirostris*

Two along Rudland Rigg on 10<sup>th</sup> October with five on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Single at Spaunton Moor on 17<sup>th</sup> January, ten on Blakey Ridge on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citronella*

Another species widely reported but few counts. Ten at Sparrow Hall, Salton on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 20 at Espersykes/Ryemouth on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Records from Old Malton/Espersykes/Ryemouth with a maximum of five on 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Two pairs in Rosedale East on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

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Baker, D	Padmore, M
Bentley, A	Peacock, J
Birdguides,	Pewtress J
Birdguides-details,	Popplewell, A
Bishop, B J	Richardson, A
Blackman, G M	Roberts, B
Bone, P	Robson, J
Bradshaw, C G	Rymer, C J
Breaks, M T	Seaman, P
Brown, D G	Short, G
Burgoine, J	Simpson, G
Burkinshaw, T	Smith, GM
Calbrade, N A	Taylor, A
Challis, J P	Ward, S
Chapman, R E	Watchman, M J
Collins, P	Watola, G V
Cooper, E	Willey, P
Cooper, J R	Wright, K M H
Cooper, N	
Coursey, R W	
Denney T&J	
Dewsnap, W	
Dowson, J M	
Dunning, M	
Edwards, J H	
Farmer, D	
Ferguson, J	
Foster, C W	
Fraser, N	
Gillings, S	
Gittins K&J	
Hall, D	
Hogg, J	
Hoskin, R	
Hunter, S	
Hutchinson, K S	
Jenkins, EJ	
Jones, E L	

Ringing Totals 2014	Rievaulx			Nunnington			Flamingoland			Total		
	FG	Pulli	R/R	FG	Pulli	R/R	FG	Pulli	R/R	FG	Pulli	R/R
Sparrowhawk	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Woodpigeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Tawny Owl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
Kingfisher	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Swallow	0	0	0	0	5	0	11	0	0	11	5	0
Great Spotted Woodpecker	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Wren	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	1
Duncock	4	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	10	0	0
Robin	6	11	5	3	0	0	4	0	0	13	11	5
Blackbird	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	5	2	0
Song Thrush	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Redwing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whitethroat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackcap	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	9	0	0
Chiffchaff	5	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0
Willow Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Goldcrest	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Long-tailed Tit	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Marsh Tit	14	0	18	5	0	0	2	0	0	21	0	18
Coal Tit	18	0	8	7	0	4	5	0	0	30	0	12
Blue Tit	191	0	113	36	0	8	38	9	1	265	9	122
Great Tit	143	0	43	32	0	13	22	7	1	197	7	57
Nuthatch	5	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Treecreeper	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	2
Jackdaw	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	0
Starling	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Tree Sparrow	3	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0
House Sparrow	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	0
Chaffinch	18	0	3	8	0	0	4	0	0	30	0	3
Brambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greenfinch	7	0	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	12	0	2
Goldfinch	25	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	1
Siskin	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
Bullfinch	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>235</b>
<b>FG=Fully grown</b>												
<b>R/R=Retraps and recoveries</b>												

Goldfinch trapped on 13/03/2014 at Rievaulx ringed at Ilken, Suffolk on 30/12/2011 – 295km – 804 days

Blue Tit ringed on 13/04/2013 at Rievaulx recovered Linthorpe, Middlesborough on 19/12/2014 – 35km – 615 days

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# **Reptile and Amphibian Report 2014**

Marian Tierney

## **Reptiles**

Through April and into May adders were seen 5 times in Rosedale East. There was considerable colour variation, from pale green to dull green, bright green and brown. A slow worm was sighted in Sykes House garden in Spring and again, unusually, in December, probably due to the mild temperature. One was also seen in Newtondale in May.

A solitary lizard was seen crossing a track in the Gilling area in June.

## **Amphibians**

The first observation of the year was of frogs gathering in a Kirkbymoorside garden pond on 28 February, but in smaller numbers than in recent years. In early March 50 frogs were seen among spawn in Rosedale East. During the rest of the month frogs and toads, along with consequent spawn, were present in Gilling Lakes, Sykes House pond and Vivers Pond. The abundance of spawn around the margin at this last site had markedly diminished by the first week in April, probably due to the patrolling heron and 4 mallard. 3 clumps of spawn appeared in my garden pond in Kirkbymoorside, produced by unusually discreet frogs who had not previously advertised their presence.

In mid July froglets were out on dry land near Gilling Lakes and in my garden. 6 adult frogs hung out in my pond from June until early September.

There was a single newt observation, appropriately in Newtondale, in May which is a 100% increase on the previous year.

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# Botany Report for 2014

Gill Smith

Remarkably mild start to the year, with plenty of sunshine (though much wetter and stormy in the south). Snowdrops more or less fully out by 1 Feb. Stormy weather continuing. Snowdrops at best ~24th Feb, and crocus also doing well. Chinodoxa showing 28th. First daffodils Terrington 3rd March.

White and purple violets flowering nicely along Bank Lane by 12th March.

Garden forsythias spectacular by 23rd March, when wild-type daffs round sports hall also nicely out.

Blackthorn out by ~9th April, wild cherry and plum opening, hedges greening up (hawthorn). Sweet violets over best but moschatel flowering well 10th, along with ground ivy.

24 April - both golden saxifrages flowering in Hovingham woods, but no sign of the greater chickweed. Large bittercress prolific in Gilling. 17 EPO plus 7 round the signpost on main road verge. A few oxlips nearby.

“Greening” c1 May. Bluebells at best first week of May. But ashes not fully in leaf till ~7 June.

Gilling Herb Paris doing very well, say 50+ plants. Baneberry weak though, with one plant broken/eaten probably by deer, only one showing flowers, and that only one spike. Not doing too well at Ashberry either on R of road, but the plants on the L strong and healthy (though again only 1 flower spike).

All vegetation incredibly tall and lush. Southern marsh orchids at Arboretum spectacular 11 June. Horseradish at Whitwell produced a flower spike - first I can remember seeing.

Bee orchids - 8 spikes near Nissen hut (a couple really small). 6 more or less together, one by edge near bracken. Total 13 counted on 27th.

Something nasty affecting willows, notably goat willow – combination of rust and beetle attack meant many trees looked dead mid-July although some at least are trying to put out new shoots.

Mid-late July perfect summer weather.

Almost no yellow balsam this year – just one or two very small plants, that did not flower. Overgrown? Poor acorn year (though good for beech mast, hazelnuts, plums, some brambles) – but plenty of knopper galls. Plenty of haws.

End October remarkably warm – temp up to 17°+ on 31st! Stayed mild through into November – which was quite wet. Poor autumn colours as no frost.

I received some very interesting records.

Globeflower at Beadale, Wrelton in woodland - this is on an old, known site but it hadn't been seen for several years, so it's great to have it back..

In Spaunton Quarry (SE7287) as well as some fly orchids “we found a swathe of Adderstongue, *Ophioglossum vulgatum*. Estimate 100 plants but could be more. Under dead bracken where it is protected. I think a new record for Spaunton Quarry...28 May” [Top](#)

# Miscellaneous Invertebrates Recorded in 2014

Andrew Grayson

GENUS	SPECIES	ORDER	LOCALITY	DATE
Arion	ater	Styломmatophora	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Glomeris	marginata	Glomerida	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Oniscus	asellus	Isopoda	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Aeshna	mixta	Odonata	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Odezia	atrata	Lepidoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Agrotis	exclamationis	Lepidoptera	56, Piercy End, Kirkbymoorside	14.7.2014
Noctua	pronuba	Lepidoptera	56, Piercy End, Kirkbymoorside	9.7.2014
Ochlodes	venata	Lepidoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Gonepteryx	rhamni	Lepidoptera	Peasey Hills, Malton	1.4.2014
Gonepteryx	rhamni	Lepidoptera	Pickering	9.3.2014
Gonepteryx	rhamni	Lepidoptera	Potter Hill, Pickering	9.3.2014
Gonepteryx	rhamni	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Pieris	napi	Lepidoptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Aglais	urticae	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Aglais	urticae	Lepidoptera	Market Place, Pickering	9.3.2014
Aglais	urticae	Lepidoptera	Peasey Hills, Malton	1.4.2014
Inachis	io	Lepidoptera	Peasey Hills, Malton	1.4.2014
Polygonia	c-album	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Polygonia	c-album	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Vanessa	cardui	Lepidoptera	The Orchards, Beadlam	18.6.2014
Vanessa	atalanta	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Vanessa	atalanta	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Aphantopus	hyperantus	Lepidoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Aphantopus	hyperantus	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Aphantopus	hyperantus	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Maniola	jurtina	Lepidoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Maniola	jurtina	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Maniola	jurtina	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Pararge	aegeria	Lepidoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Pararge	aegeria	Lepidoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Bembidion	tetracolum	Coleoptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Rhagonycha	fulva	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Rhagonycha	fulva	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Rhagonycha	fulva	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Leptura	quadrifasciata	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Pogonocherus	hispidulus	Coleoptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Rutpela	maculata	Coleoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Rutpela	maculata	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Strangalia	maculata	Coleoptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Formica	lugubris	Hymenoptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014

Bombus	hortorum	Hymenoptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Bombus	hypnorum	Hymenoptera	Scardale', Beadlam	5.2014
Bombus	hypnorum	Hymenoptera	Scardale', Beadlam	18.6.2014
Bombus	hypnorum	Hymenoptera	2, Hawthorn Avenue, Malton	12.6.2014
Bombus	hypnorum	Hymenoptera	2, Hawthorn Avenue, Malton	13.6.2014
Bombus	hypnorum	Hymenoptera	2, Hawthorn Avenue, Malton	2.9.2014
Bombus	pascuorum	Hymenoptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Bombus	rupestris	Hymenoptera	Scardale', Beadlam	18.6.2014
Bombus	terrestris	Hymenoptera	Potter Hill, Pickering	9.3.2014
Nephrotoma	flavescens	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Bibio	leucopterus	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Bibio	marci	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Dilophus	febrilis	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Chrysopilus	asiliformis	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Chrysopilus	asiliformis	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Chrysopilus	cristatus	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Rhagio	tringarius	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Haematopota	crassicornis	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Haematopota	pluvialis	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Haematopota	pluvialis	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Tabanus	maculicornis	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Beris	vallata	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Chloromyia	formosa	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Chloromyia	formosa	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Chloromyia	formosa	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Empis	chioptera	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Empis	opaca	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Chalcosyrphus	nemorum	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Cheilosia	antiqua	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Cheilosia	illustrata	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Cheilosia	illustrata	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Cheilosia	illustrata	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Cheilosia	pagana	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Chrysogaster	solstitialis	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Eristalis	arbustorum	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Eristalis	horticola	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Eristalis	pertinax	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Eristalis	pertinax	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Eristalis	tenax	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Eristalis	tenax	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Leucozona	laternaria	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Leucozona	lucorum	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Melanostoma	mellinum	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Melanostoma	scalare	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014

Myathropa	florea	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Myathropa	florea	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Neoscia	podagrica	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Platycheirus	albimanus	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Portevinia	maculata	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Rhingia	campestris	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Sericomyia	silentis	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Sphegina	clunipes	Diptera	Raindale, Stape	10.5.2014
Syritta	pipiens	Diptera	Kirk Dale	12.7.2014
Volucella	bombylans	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Urophora	jaceana	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Pherbina	coryleti	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Tetanocera	elata	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014
Phasia	hemiptera	Diptera	Ashberry Pasture	23.6.2014



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## RYEDALE FUNGI RECORDS 2014

Rhona Sutherland

- It was a very good year for Fungi. We had 263 records, from 5 recorders. 158 species, from 21 Ryedale sites. Thank you Melanie, Gill, Keith and Peter
- I had several phone calls and emails telling me of interesting sitings in various places which yielded intriguing fungi. For instance the return of the Stubble Rosegill - *Volvariella gloiocephala*, in wet muddy fields in November. I had not seen these distinctive troupes of tall greyish fungi with pink gills, a volva at the base of its stipe, but no ring, for several years, but I saw it in several places this year and Keith found it near Coxwold too.
- We had interesting visits to Stape and Sleightolmedale, as well as visiting the usual haunts around Oswaldkirk, Ampleforth and the Yorkshire Arboretum
- There were overall 18 new species added to our Ryedale list. Special thanks to Melanie who identified 7 of them
- The Sleightolmedale foray yielded plenty of fungi. Particularly exciting was the *Thelophora penicillata* (a brown and white spikey earthfan growing out of the ground that comes up through the grass) Unfortunately it does not have a common name. I had never seen this before but we saw it in several places on the Sleightolmedale foray. There have only been 6 records of it in VC62 and those were in the Scarborough Loftus Danby area, with the last record being in 1992.



- I was again amazed to find unusual fungi right on our own doorstep. In March I found several Earpick fungi *Auriscalpium vulgare* on cones under the Scots pine trees in my garden.



- In November when parking at Gilling lakes, as I have done numerous times before, I noticed lots of what looked like small golden polystyrene balls on the wooden rail in front of me. These turned out to be Common Birds nest fungi - *Crucibulum leave* . A real little gem!



- I went on several forays with the North East Fungus Study Group this year and then in September, John and I went with them to Keilder for 3 days, which was brilliant. You learn so much in the company of experts like Gordon Simpson.
- On one of those forays someone pointed out the Alder tongue *Taphrina alni* which is an inconspicuous black tongue snaking out of alder cones. It is actually a gall induced by the fungus and the chap who showed me said they were on practically every Alder tree once you know what to look for. And he was right!! We have since found it at Gilling and in the Arboretum and are eagerly awaiting Spring because they are apparently a bright red orange flame colour then, and much easier to see.
- The most exciting find though, was in the Arboretum on October 29<sup>th</sup>. There were several large brown slimy capped fungi under pines on the edge of the carpark and I expected them to be *Boletus lutea* –Slippery Jack. However when I turned one over it had gills not pores, and a dual coloured band on its stipe. It had white spores and after an evening of puzzling this out I got it down to a *Tricholma batschii*.



- I checked on FRDBI and CATE 2 (the 2 national fungi databases) and although there were 35 records nationally, it has not been found in Yorkshire before, never mind Ryedale. So the next day I went to see Malcolm Greaves at the Arboretum where he was running a foray and told him about it. He is the Mid Yorkshire Fungus Groups' fungi recorder. He looked and later agreed I was probably right. He took some specimens and sent some to the real expert, Geoff Kibby, at Kew. After some discussions back and forth he too agreed the identification was correct. So that is a pretty exciting find and I can't wait for this years' fungi season to try and find some more specimens to really clinch it for Yorkshire.
- Please keep looking for interesting fungi anywhere and get in touch if you want help identifying them.





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## Mammal Report 2014

Gordon L Woodroffe

### **Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*

The fact that I received only three reports of red fox sightings bears no reflection on population levels. Reports were confined to the following locations: Whitwell SE 7166 (Jan 2014); Spaunton SE 726587 (13 Dec 2014) and Hovingham East SE 65 7680 (28 Dec 2014).

### **Otter** *Lutra lutra*

Otters now frequent all the rivers in Ryedale. Otters and young have been seen regularly on the river Rye at Nunnington SE 670795 (19 Feb 2014) and the Seven at Sinnington (SE 745865).

### **Stoat** *Mustela ermine*

Stoats appear to be doing well. Sightings have been made include the following areas: Gilling Golf Course SE 6176; Rosedale East NZ 6900; Appleton le Moors SE 7388 (four animals) ; Castle Howard Arboretum SE 6969; High Askew SE 4391 (four animals); Farndale West SE 6679) (two animals).

### **Weasel** *Mustela nivalis*

Two reports: road between Helmsley and Harome SE 635825 and south of Fadmoor SE 630885.

### **Badger** *Meles meles*

There appear to be far more badgers killed on the roads throughout Ryedale than hedgehogs; an indication that their numbers are increasing. Reports from Fadmoor bank SE 670910; Gilling SE 6076; Sinnington SE 744868.

### **Hedgehog** *Erinaceus europaeus*

Hedgehogs seen at three locations: Kirkbymoorside SE 695865; Gillamoore SE 675905 and Rosedale East SE 70996.

**Roe Deer** *Capreolus capreolus*

Roe deer are relatively common throughout the area: Rievaulx SE 574855 (4 animals); Appleton Mill SE 746881 (5); Cropton SE 748913; Rosedale SE 7295 (3); Spaunton SE 7193(8) and 10 reports from Gilling SE 5976).

**Fallow Deer** *Dama dama*

Rievaulx Terrace SE 582581 (6); Scawton SE 536 839 (7) and Ashberry SE 5685.

**Red Deer** *Cervus elephus* are found from Newton dale to Rosedale and Cropton Forest.

**Brown Hare** *Lepus europaeus*

Good numbers of hares have been recorded at several locations: Leysthorpe SE 635787 (2) Spaunton SE 635787; Spaunton SE 7193 (6) and (9); Gilling SE 6076.

**Water Vole** *Arvicola amphibius*

Water voles are now considered an endangered species. Their distribution appears to be mainly confined to Eller Beck SE 857984; Fen Bog SE 855976 and Hole of Horcum SE 844935.

Small mammals such as **Bank** and **Field Voles**, **Common**, **Pigmy** and **Water Shrews** and **Wood Mice** are distributed throughout Ryedale but unlikely to be seen unless found during trapping studies using Longworth traps. In the winter there are signs of **Moles** nearly everywhere. **Grey squirrels** are also common in most of the surrounding woodland.

**Alcathoe's Bat** is a relatively new bat species which is now classed as a native bat species. A swarming site has been identified in the vicinity of Helmsley.

## Spaunton Quarry, Appleton Le Moors Ryenats Trial Study 2014

Photos of flowers and insects [below](#)

Spaunton Quarry is a disused limestone quarry west of Appleton Le Moors, SE7187-SE7286. It measures approximately 1km × 1.5km. About half of the quarry is open access, predominantly the southern half. A public footpath crosses the area east-west. There are two clear excavated areas, the northern area is grassed over and not included in the open access. The southern area is bare ground, some of which is open access. Indeed, the open access runs south to the A170 allowing pedestrian access via here. Although this is the main access to the quarry for vehicles there is no access for public vehicles. Access is also gained via the footpath on the east and west sides and via a track off Gray Lane on the west side running along the south of Spring wood. On the west side of the quarry is a deciduous wooded strip running north-south. There is a dry river bed running north-south on the east of this wooded area. On the east of the quarry there is a conifer plantation as well as more recent deciduous planting. There are a number of spoil heaps. Quarrying stopped approximately 8 years ago.

As expected this area is rich in flora with eight species of orchid although not in great numbers. Key species include eight bee orchids, 17 fly orchids, three northern marsh orchids, nine pyramidal orchids and 11 fragrant orchids. Both adderstongue and common

codweed are two very welcome finds at this site and viper's bugloss, deadly nightshade and ploughmans spikenard are fairly well represented here.

Slightly surprising is the lack of birdlife although the list is by no means complete. The common buzzard is a frequent sighting with eight observed during one visit. Disappointingly, the sand martins failed to show this year. There has been a good-sized colony here in the last few years, including 2013.

Butterflies, 18 species in total, enjoy the rich flora at the quarry. Marbled white, dingy skipper and white-letter hairstreak were particularly interesting to see.

The study was undertaken by one member of Ryenats as a trial, focusing mainly on flora and butterflies during April-September with approximately two visits per month. It also included data collected on the Ryenats outdoor meeting here on 18 May. The study is by no means complete. Further visits by specialists in each field are likely to add to this data.

English Name	Latin Name
Adderstongue	<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Avens water hybrid	<i>Geum rivale x urbanum</i>
Avens wood	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Basil wild	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
Bedstraw heath	<i>Galium saxatile</i>
Bedstraw hedge	<i>Galium mollugo</i>
Bedstraw lady's	<i>Galium verum</i>
Bird's-foot- trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Black meddick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
Burdock lesser	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Buttercup bulbous	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>
Buttercup creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Buttercup meadow	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Celandine lesser	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Centaurly common	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>
Centaurly common white	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>
Cinquefoil creeping	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>
Colt's foot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Common rock rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>
Common twayblade	<i>Listera ovata</i>

Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Crane's-bill cut-leaved	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>
Crane's-bill dove's-foot	<i>Geranium molle</i>
Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>
Cudweed common	<i>Filago vulgaris</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> agg.
Deadly nightshade	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
Dock curled	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Dock wood	<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>
Dogs mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Elm wych	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
Enchanter's nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia</i> agg.
Fairy flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>
False oxlip	<i>Primula x polyantha</i>
Fern broad buckler	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>
Fern lady	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
Fern male	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>
Field madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>
Figwort common	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>
Forget-me-not changing	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>
Forget-me-not field	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>
Forget-me-not wood	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Grass brome false	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Grass cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Grass crested dogstail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>
Grass tufted hair	<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>
Grass Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Great mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Ground ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Guelder rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Hawkweed mouse-ear	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Cratargus monogyna</i>
Hedge woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Herb robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>

Knapweed common	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Lady's mantle	<i>Alchemilla vestita</i>
Lesser trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
Lord and ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>
Meadowsweet	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
Milkwort common	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>
Moschatel	<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>
Mouse-ear common	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Mullein great	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Nettle stinging	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Orchid bee	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>
Orchid common spotted	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Orchid common twayblade	<i>Listera ovata</i>
Orchid early purple	<i>Orchis mascula</i>
Orchid fly	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>
Orchid fragrant	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>
Orchid northern marsh	<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>
Orchid pyramidal	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Parsley piert	<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>
Pearlwort procumbent	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>
Plantain ribwort	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Ploughman's spikenard	<i>Inula conyzae</i>
Poppy welsh	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Ramsons	<i>Allium ursinum</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
Red bartsia	<i>Odontites vernus</i>
Red campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
Red clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>
Rush hard	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>
Sandwort three-nerved	<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>
Sandwort thyme-leaved	<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>
Scarlet pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>
Sedge carnation	<i>Carex panicea</i>
Sedge glaucous	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Sedge pale	<i>Carex pallescens</i>
Sedge pill	<i>Carex pilulifera</i>
Sedge spring	<i>Carex caryophyllea</i>

Sedge star	Carex echinata
Sedge wood	Carex sylvatica
Selfheal	Prunella vulgaris
Sheep's sorrel	Rumex acetosella
Silverweed	Potentilla anserina
Sow thistle prickly	Sonchus asper
Speedwell germander	Veronica chamaedrys
Speedwell heath	Veronica officinalis
Speedwell thyme-leaved	Veronica serpyllifolia
Speedwell wall	Veronica arvensis
Speedwell wood	Veronica montana
St John's-wort hairy	Hypericum hirsutum
Stitchwort lesser	Stellaria graminea
Stork's-bill	Erodium cicutarium
Strawberry barren	Potentilla sterilis
Strawberry wild	Fragaria vesca
Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Teasel	Dipsacus fullonum
Thistle creeping	Cirsium arvense
Thistle marsh	Cirsium palustre
Thistle musk	Carduus nutans
Thistle spear	Cirsium vulgare
Thistle welted x1	Carduus crispus
Toadflax common	Linaria vulgaris
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta
Vetch common	Vicia sativa
Vetch tufted	Vicia cracca
Vetchling meadow	Lathyrus pratensis
Violet common dog	Viola riviniana
Violet early dog	Viola reichenbachiana
Violet hairy	Viola hirta
Violet sweet	Viola odorata
Vipers Bugloss	Echium vulgare
White clover	Trifolium repens
Whitlowgrass common	Erophila verna agg.
Wild thyme	Thymus polytrichus
Willowherb broadleaved	Epilobium montanum
Willowherb great	Epilobium hirsutum
Woodrush field	Luzula campestris
Wood sorrel	Oxalis acetosella
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium
Yellow pimpernel	Lysimachia nemorum



**Adderstongue**



**Common Cudweed**



**Viper's Bugloss**



**Viper's Bugloss (detail)**



**Common centaury (typical form)**



**Common centaury (white form)**



**Hedge bedstraw**



**Northern marsh orchid**



**Fly orchid**



**Bee orchid**



**Marbled white butterfly**



**Small skipper butterflies coupled**



**White letter hairstreak butterfly on elm**



**Dingy skipper butterfly**



**Clouded silver moth**



**Common blue butterfly**



**Mullein moth caterpillar**



Cinnabar moth larvae on common ragwort



Narrow-bordered five spot burnet moth just on the wing

[Top](#)